UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/819,820	03/29/2001	Isao Miyadai	026128-0103	1444

22428	7590	04/02/2004

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2676	13

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>03</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 January 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-11,13-41 and 43-64* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-11,13-41 and 43-64* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11, 13-41, 43-64 are rejected under 35 U. S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahn

(USPN 5461708) in view of Groath et al. (USPN 6571285 B1), hereinafter simply Groath.

2.   In regard to claims 1, 30, 31, 60, 61, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, see col.1 lines 15-22, the method comprising

the steps of: identifying a report format as comprising at least one first group at a first level

having at least one detail line with at least two data fields in each of the detail lines, see col.7

lines 63-67, wherein the first group further includes either a vertical total for each of a plurality

of the respective data fields in the first group or a horizontal total for each of a plurality of the

respective detail lines, with each particular vertical total totaling a corresponding data field for

each detail line and with each particular horizontal total totaling each of the data fields for that

particular detail line; see Fig.6 and col.11 lines 5-52; receiving a user input indicative of one of

the totals; and generating a graph using a predefined rule corresponding to the one of the totals

indicated by the user input, see Fig.6, col.9 lines 8-27. Kahn does not teach the report format is

hierarchical and further comprises a second group at a second level, each second group

comprising one or more first groups, the second group including second group vertical totals,

each second group vertical total aggregating all vertical totals for that data field for each first

group in the second group. However, Groath teaches the report format is hierarchical and further

comprises a second group at a second level, each second group comprising one or more first

groups, the second group including second group vertical totals, each second group vertical total

aggregating all vertical totals for that data field for each first group in the second group, (see

Fig.13, see col.59 lines 29-31). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art

at the time of the invention to incorporate the report format of Groath into the report format of

Kahn because the combining formats of Groath and Kahn would provide the system with the

capability of displaying the spread of information visually, such as in various graphs or charts.

See col.6 lines 35-38.

3.   In regard to claims 2, 32, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein the vertical totals are formed in a vertical total line,

wherein report data comprises data from a report generated by another application, and wherein

the predefined rule for generating a graph is derived from the identified report format of the

report generated by the another application. See col.1 lines 13-22.

4.   In regard to claims 3, 33, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein the predefined rule corresponding to a particular

one of the vertical totals includes using each different value that formed that particular vertical

total to form a different feature in said graph, see col.11 lines 13-16.

5.   In regard to claims 4, 34, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein the predefined rule corresponding to particular one

of the horizontal totals includes using each different value that formed that particular detail line

total to form a different feature in said graph, see col.11 lines 10-13.

6.   In regard to claims 5, 35, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein each different feature is a separate display

component in said graph displayed on a graphical display, see col.11 lines 35-40.

7.   In regard to claims 6, 36, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein each different feature is a separate display

component in said graph displayed on a graphical display, see col.11 lines 35-40.

8.   In regard to claims 7, 37, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein both vertical totals and horizontal totals are

included in the report, see col.11 lines 5-10.

9.   In regard to claims 8, 38, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein the report format further comprises a cross total

field that equals either the sum of the vertical totals or the sum of the horizontal totals, see col.11

lines 5-25.

10.   In regard to claims 9, 39, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, further comprising: receiving a user input indicative of one

cross total field; and generating a graph using a predefined rule corresponding to that one cross

total field, see col.9 lines 8-27.

11.   In regard to claims 10, 40, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the predefined rule corresponding to

that one cross total field includes forming a different feature in said graph corresponding to

either each vertical total or each horizontal total that formed said cross total field, see col.11 lines 5-10.

12.   In regard to claims 11, 41, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the predefined rule corresponding to that one cross total field includes forming a first and a second graphs, with a different feature in said first graph corresponding to each vertical total that formed said cross total field and with a different feature in said second graph corresponding to each horizontal total that formed said cross total field, see col.11 lines 5-25.

13.   In regard to claims 13, 43, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the second group vertical totals are formed in a line, see col.11 lines 12- 25.

14.   In regard to claims 14, 44, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, further comprising: receiving a user input indicative of one of the second group vertical totals; and generating a graph using a predefined rule corresponding to that one of the second group vertical totals, see col.11 lines 5-25.

15.   In regard to claims 15, 45, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the predefined rule corresponding to a particular one of the second group vertical totals includes using each different first group vertical total that formed that second group vertical total to form a separate feature on said graph, see col.11 lines 12- 25.

16.   In regard to claims 16, 46, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein each second group comprises at least two first groups, see col.7 lines 63-67.

17.   In regard to claims 17, 47, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the hierarchical report format further comprises a third group at a third level, each third group comprising one or more second groups, the third group including respective third group vertical totals, each third group vertical total aggregating all second group totals for that data field for each second group in the third group, see col.11 lines 5-25.

18.   In regard to claims 18, 48, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the third group vertical totals are formed in a line, and further comprising: receiving a user input indicative of one of the third group vertical totals; and generating a graph using a predefined rule corresponding to that one of the third group vertical totals, see col.11 lines 5-25.

19.   In regard to claims 19, 49, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the predefined rule corresponding to a particular one of the third group vertical totals includes using each second group vertical total that formed that third group vertical total to form a separate feature on said graph, see col.11 lines 12- 25.

20.   In regard to claims 20, 50, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the received user input comprises clicking on a total, see col.12 lines 35-40.

21.   In regard to claims 21, 51, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the received user input comprises

clicking on a total area that is of a different color than other areas, see col.12 lines 35-45.

22.   In regard to claims 22, 23, 52, 53 Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, identifying a report format as comprising at

least one first group at a first level having at least one detail line with at least two data fields in

each of the detail lines, see col.7 lines 63-67, wherein the first group further includes either a

vertical total for each of a plurality of the respective data fields in the first group or a horizontal

total for each of a plurality of the respective detail lines, with each particular vertical total

totaling a corresponding data field for each detail line and with each particular horizontal total

totaling each of the data fields for that particular detail line; see Fig.6 and col.11 lines 5-52;

receiving a user input indicative of one of the totals; and generating a graph using a predefined

rule corresponding to the one of the totals indicated by the user input, see Fig.6, col.9 lines 8-27.

Wherein each of a plurality of the different features in said graph is linked to the corresponding

different value used to form that feature, and wherein clicking on a feature displays the linked

corresponding different value, see col.12 lines 35-45.

23.   In regard to claims 24, 54, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein when a feature designation is

received from a user, the report page containing the different value used to form that feature is

displayed, see col.12 lines 17-24.

24.   In regard to claims 25, 55, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein when the report page is displayed

after receiving a designation of a feature, at least one value used to form the feature is displayed

in a different manner relative to the other values on the report page, see col.12 lines 17-24.

25.   In regard to claims 26, 56, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein when the report page is displayed

after receiving a designation of a feature, links to other pages used to form the feature are

included in the display, col.13 lines 30-55.

26.   In regard to claims 27, 57, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein when a feature in said graph is

designated, a report page number containing the value used to form the designated feature is

displayed, col.13 lines 30-55.

27.   In regard to claims 28, 58, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein the column location of vertical totals

determines the column location of the data fields of all detail lines, see Fig.6, col.11 lines 5-50.

28.   In regard to claims 29, 59, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of

automatically generating a graph from report data, wherein predetermined control break

characters define the location of the first and any other subsequent hierarchical groups, see col.15

lines 20-50.

29.   In regard to claim 62, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, further comprising: highlighting or changing in color the

one of the totals indicated by the user input; and highlighting or changing in color data

components that comprise the one of the totals indicated by the user input, see col.7 lines 45-53.

30.   In regard to claim 63, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, identifying a report format as comprising at least one first

group at a first level having at least one detail line with at least two data fields in each of the

detail lines, see col.7 lines 63-67, wherein the first group further includes either a vertical total

for each of a plurality of the respective data fields in the first group or a horizontal total for each

of a plurality of the respective detail lines, with each particular vertical total totaling a

corresponding data field for each detail line and with each particular horizontal total totaling

each of the data fields for that particular detail line; see Fig.6 and col.11 lines 5-52; receiving a

user input indicative of one of the totals; and generating a graph using a predefined rule

corresponding to the one of the totals indicated by the user input, see Fig.6, col.9 lines 8-27.

Wherein the step of generating a graph comprises: extracting corresponding data for the one of

the totals from a series of reports; generating a graph displaying a different feature for each of

the extracted corresponding data, see col.12 lines 41-47.

31.   In regard to claim 64, Kahn teaches a computer implemented method of automatically

generating a graph from report data, wherein the series of reports represents a time series of a

particular report, see col.13 lines 8-19.

Response to Arguments

32.   Applicant's arguments filed on 07/08/2003, have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach "the report data is automatically determined

based on a user selection of a total". However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the

argument because on Fig.6B, col.12 lines 35-40, Kahn shows graph being generated using one of

the totals indicated by the user, the system automatically constructs and displays the pie graph,

which graphically demonstrates the breakdown of sales by product line for the selected data. For

these reasons, the rejections are maintained.

Conclusion

33.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is **703-305-4196**. The

examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30 – 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **703-308-6829**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,

Arlington, VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose

telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Tam Tran

T T
Examiner

**MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**